



LAKE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT

# Lake Prosper

March - 2010

## Lake County Summit Strives to Help Entrepreneurs, Small Business Owners

Regional and local business organizations are partnering to host the Lake County Business Owners Success Summit (BOSS) to provide answers to area small business owners on how they can survive in today's economy on Thursday, March 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Minneola City Hall, located at 800 N. U.S. Highway 27.

The free summit includes a panel of speakers that will help entrepreneurs understand the latest trends in small business technical assistance, banking and economic development. The panel will be responding to information received from registrants when they register online. The online registration asks several questions about what are the individual's most pressing business issues, such as access to working capital, marketing and business planning.

A few of the speakers on the panel include Jerry Ross, Director of the Disney Entrepreneur Center, James Spencer, Site Manager for the UCF Business Incubator-Leesburg, and Dottie Keedy, Director of the Lake County Department of Economic Growth & Redevelopment. After the panel, participants will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with business resource providers, including:

- \* Disney Entrepreneur Center
- \* Florida Small Business Development Center at UCF
- \* Lake County Department of Economic Growth & Redevelopment
- \* Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission
- \* UCF Business Incubation Program
- \* Workforce Central Florida

"The current economic climate is transforming the way Lake County companies do business," said Minneola Councilman Victor M. Ortega, who helped organized the event. "The global recession presents many challenges, and business owners at every level are urgently seeking practical answers to their most pressing concerns. Perhaps one of the greatest difficulties they face is simply knowing what resources exist, and are available to help them sustain, grow, and prosper their businesses."

Visit [TheBossLink.com](http://TheBossLink.com) to register for the Business Owners Success Summit.



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*Central Florida's New Business Center*



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## UCF / Lake County / Leesburg Business Incubator is Growing

The UCF Business Incubator in Leesburg is a partnership between UCF, Lake County Government, the City of Leesburg and the Florida High Tech Corridor Council. The incubator is located in a newly renovated building next to Leesburg City Hall at 600 Market Street. The facility features 4,000 square feet of office space, a big conference room, a big lunch area, and a nice welcoming reception area. Every new client in this facility is provided with nice office furniture and also with an all in one printer/scan/copier to ensure the clients get a good start with the business adventure. The office of the local Small Business Development Center is also located in the building.

The Business Incubator currently houses 6 clients. Those clients include Green Solar Solutions LLC who focus on the growing need for innovation, identification and application of clean technologies capable of leveraging renewable energy sources for residential and commercial customers, Hometown Health TV whose unique, multi-award winning marketing approach features local doctors, their skills, their services and their medical insight in interesting and engaging video segments viewable in doctor office waiting areas, on television and the web, Radius Advertising which is a green and environmentally friendly E-magazine featuring and promoting various Lake County businesses, and The Imagination Shop, Inc., a multimedia company specializing in broadcast video production, website design and development, and have developed a unique marketing program designed to leverage advances in social media and networking to help businesses more effectively communicate and interact with their clients and customers.

For more information about the Business Incubator, please contact Site Manager James Spencer at (352) 315-1856 or via email, [jspencer@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:jspencer@mail.ucf.edu)



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## Lake County Commissioners Approve Suspension of Transportation Impact Fees for One Year

In an effort to rally the local economy, the Lake County Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance at its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday that suspends the collection of transportation impact fees on new developments beginning today for one year.

According to the approved ordinance, which can be found online, [http://www.lakecountyfl.gov/board\\_agendas/board\\_regular\\_meetings.aspx](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov/board_agendas/board_regular_meetings.aspx):

"The Board of County Commissioners wish to stimulate the local economy by encouraging economic development and promoting job creation; and transportation impact fees are applicable to all types of developments, including residential, commercial, office and industrial development, and can be a substantial component of a developer's total development costs."

"I look at this at helping small businesses," said Commissioner Linda Stewart.

Commissioner Jimmy Conner said, ""We've had some people come here today and say our vote today will determine if some of these projects will move forward. I'm confident that there will be some level of job creation as a result of this vote."

For more information about Lake County impact fees, call the Lake County Department of Growth Management, Development Processing Office, at (352) 343-9451.



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## Lake County attends Cleantech Symposium

On Thursday February 18, 2010 the Lake County Department of Economic Growth & Redevelopment, along with Lake County's First Green Bank CEO Ken Laroe and Green Solar Solutions founder Bobby Rhodes, attended the Cleantech Symposium hosted at the University of Central Florida Venture Lab. Sponsors of the event include the Florida Solar Energy Center, Metro Orlando EDC, AquaFiber Technologies, Mitsubishi Power Systems, and TechAmerica.

The main topic for this symposium was "Creation of a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard." The Cleantech Symposium featured experts in Cleantech policy, technology and finance to discuss ways of increasing renewable energy production by creating an Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) for Florida. It also provided a forum for open dialogue with industry experts on the creation of an RPS for Florida, based on feedback received from the Cleantech community in Central Florida last year. An RPS is currently being proposed in the Florida Legislature that would require the increased production of energy from renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal. The RPS would create renewable energy production in Florida by requiring utilities to produce a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable sources.

The topics covered during the symposium include "Where Do We Go From Here," "State of the Union for Florida's RPS Policy," "Renewable Energy, Green Jobs and SunSmart Schools Plus," "Integrating Renewables – A Utility Perspective," and "Development of Florida's Renewable Energy Goal."

Some of the featured experts that presented at the Cleantech Symposium include Michael Dobson of Florida Renewable Energy Producers Association, Tommy Burroughs of Holland & Knight LLP, James Fenton of Florida Solar Energy Center, Jennifer S. Szaro of OUC, and Florida Governor Charlie Crist.



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## Lake County EGR Attends First Aviation and Aerospace Industry Manufacturing Summit

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Worldwide, in collaboration with the Aerospace States Association, held its first Aviation and Aerospace Industry Manufacturing Summit on February 22-24 in Orlando, Fla. Lake County EGR and Metro Orlando EDC both attended the Summit.

The summit presented data and addressed issues on the state of aerospace manufacturing in the U.S. and around the world for both military and commercial markets, and addressed key trends and projections for the future.

Distinguished speakers and guests came from across the country and represented a myriad of organizations. Some of those organizations included educational institutions, government agencies, and small-to-medium manufacturing companies, original equipment manufacturers, prime government contractors, service providers, policy makers, and economic developers.

Summit attendees received a copy of the new Aerospace Economic Report and Outlook for 2010: Manufacturing Indicators for the Aviation and Aerospace Industry, also known as the AERO 2010 Report. This nearly 300-page AERO 2010 Report provides an in-depth analysis of major trends affecting the industry including sales data, employment trends, key international trade statistics, and a forecast for the future based on a review of what the major aerospace firms are saying and Embry-Riddle's own analysis.

Lake County is currently considering adding Aviation as a targeted industry sector. Additionally two aviation companies are in the process of review for High Value Job Creation Program incentives. One being an existing company in Lake County, with the other being a company relocating to Lake County.



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## Recent Recipients of Lake County High Value Job Creation Program Incentive

### The One Black Hair School

Shaping Futures One Person at a Time

The One Black Hair School, LLC - founded with the idea of providing a comprehensive education in hair care and specializing in black hair care and products. This concept is the dream of Dawn Walker the founder of The One Black Hair School (TOBHS).

Walker's vision is to create an atmosphere where all nationalities can learn the art and technique of ethnic hair care which is an under developed segment of the cosmetology/Barber industry. TOBHS offers two programs; The Grooming and Salon Services Program for individuals seeking license in the state of Florida and a continuing education program to further the education of licensed cosmetologists. TOBHS is a new business located in Tavares, that will be creating 10 new jobs with a projected economic impact of \$508,365.



Treadway Industries - Is a leader in the creation, development and fabrication of the highest quality customized architectural, building and theme products. Treadway Industries adds value to their clients by identifying their needs and delivering reliable solutions. For over 21 years Treadway Industries has proven to be the right choice for hundreds of clients and has never lost sight of the need to serve our customers to the best of our ability, with integrity and dependability. With all the choices available, one of the biggest challenges in business to-

day is selecting the right partner suppliers. This is especially critical for manufacturers of custom made products that have to be produced to specification, on time and within budget. Treadway Industries is an established business located in Leesburg, that will be creating 7 additional jobs with a projected economic impact of \$3,736,597.



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